A briefe diſcourſe of the late murther of maſter George Sanders, a worshipful Citizen of London: and of the apprehenſion, arreignement, and execution of the principall and acceſſaries of the ſame.

Seene and allowed.

¶ *Imprinted at London by* Henrie Bynnyman, dwelling in *Knightriders ſtreete, at the ſigne of the Mermayde.*

ANNO. 1577.

FOrasmuche as the late murther of M. Saunders, Citizen & Merchant taylor of this Citie, ministreth great occasion of talke among al sorts of men, not only here in the Towne, but also far abrode in the Countrie, & generally through the whole Realme: and the sequeles and accidents ensewing therevpon, breede much diuersitie of reports & opinions, while some do iustly detest the horriblenesse of the vngratious fact, some lament the grieuous losse of their deere frendes, some reioyce at the cõmendable execution of vpright iustice, the godly bewayle the vnmeasurable inclination of humaine nature to extreame wickednesse, & therewith magnifie Gods infinite mercy in reuoking of forlorne sinners to final repentance, many delight to heare and tell newes, without respect of the certaintie of the truth, or regarde of dewe humanitie, euery man debating of the matter as occasion or affection leades him, & fewe folke turning the aduised consideration of Gods open iudgements, to the speedy reformation of their owne secrete faultes: It is thought cõueni nt (gentle rea-

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der) to giue thee a playne declaration of the whole matter, according as the same is come to light by open triall of Iustice, and voluntarie confessiō of the parties, that thou mayst both know the truth to the satisfying of thy minde, and the auoyding of miscredite, and also vse the example to the amēdment of thy life. Notwithstanding thou shalte not loke for a full discouerie of euery particular by matter appendent to the present case, whiche might serue to feede the fonde humor of such curious apetites as are more inquisitiue of other folkes offences, than hastie to redresse their owne: for that were neyther expedient nor necessarie. And mens misdoyngs are to be prosecuted no further with open detestation, than till the parties be eyther reclaymed by reasonable and godly perswasion, or punished by orderly and lawfull execution, according to the qualitie of theyr offence. Whē lawe hath once passed vpon them, and giuen them the wages of their wicked desertes: thē Christian charitie willeth men eyther to burie the faults with the offendours in perpetuall silence, or else so to speake of them, as the vices and not the parties thēselues may seeme to be any more touched.

But hereof shall more be spoken (God wil-

willing) in the winding vp of this matter. Now I will set downe, first the murthering of maister Saunders by George Browne, with Brownes apprehension, triall, and execution: then the trial and execution of Anne Saunders, the wife of the sayde George Saunders, of Anne Drewrie, widowe, & of Roger Clement, called among them, Trustie Roger, the seruãt of ỹ sayd Anne Drewrie: And lastly, a briefe rehearsall of certaine sayings and dealings of the parties conuicted, betweene the time of their apprehensions, and the tyme of their execution, whiche are not things proper and peculiar to the very body of the case, but yet incident, and therefore necessarie for the hearer, as whereby will appeare the very originall cause and first grounde of this vngodly deede: And this rehearsall shall be shut vp and concluded with a short Admonition how we ought to deale in this and all other such cases.

The Tuisdaye in Easter weeke laste past (which was the xxiiij. day of March) the sayd George Browne receyuing secret intelligence by letter from mistresse Drewrie, that maister Saunders should lodge the same nyghte at the house of one Maister Barnes in Woolwich, and from thence go

on foote to Sainte Marie Crayt the nexte morning: met him by the way a little from Shooters hill, betweene seuen and eight of the clocke in the forenoone, and there slewe both hym and also one John Beane the seruant of the sayd master Barnes.

Assone as master Saunders felt himselfe to haue his deaths wounde (for hee was striken quite & cleane through at the firſt blow,) he kneeled downe, and lifting vp his handes and eyes vnto heauen, sayd, God haue mercy vpon mee, and forgiue me my sinnes, & thee too, (speaking to Browne, whome in deede he knewe not, whatsoeuer report hath bene made of former acquaintance betwixt them) and with that worde he gaue vp the Ghoste. And Browne (as he himselfe confessed afterward) was thereat striken with suche a terrour & agonie of hart, that he wist not what to do, but was at the poynt to haue fainted euen then, and oftentymes elſe that day, and could brooke neyther meate nor drinke that he receyued of al that day after. He was so abashed afterward at the sight of one of master Saunders little yong children, as hee had much ado to forbeare frō swounding in the streete: A notable example of the secret worcking of Gods terrible wrathe in a guiltie

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and blouddie conscience. But M. Barnes man hauing ten or eleuen deadly woundes, & being left for dead, did by Gods wonderfull prouidence reuiue agayne, and creppyng a great way on all foure, (for he could neyther go nor stande) was found by an old man and his maiden that went that way to seeke their kine, and conueyed to Woolwich, where he gaue euident tokens and markes of the murtherer: and so continuyng still aliue til he had bene apprehended and brought vnto him, died the nexte Sunday after. Immediatly, vpon the deede doing, Browne sente mistresse Drewrie worde thereof by trustie Roger, he himselfe repayred forthwith to the Court at Greenewich, and anone after him came thither the reporte of the murther also. Then departed hee thence vnto London streyght wayes, and came to the house of Mistresse Drewrie, howbeit hee spake not personally with hyr. But after coference had with him, by hir seruant Roger, she prouided him xx. pounds the same day, for the which mistresse Drewrie layde certaine plate of hir owne & of mistresse Saunders to gage.

And vpon the nexte day beyng Thursday morning (hauing in the meane tyme had intelligence that Browne was soughte for)

they sent him fyre poundes more by the sayd Roger, and warned him to shifte for himselfe by flight, whiche thing he forslowed not to doe. Neuertheleſſe the Lordes of the Queenes Maieſties Councel, caused so speedie and narow search to be made for him in all places, that vpon the xxviij. of the same moneth he was apprehended in a mans house of his owne name at Rochester, by the Mayor of the towne: and being brought backe againe to the Courte, was examined by the Councell, vnto whom he confeſſed the deede, as you haue heard, & that he had oftentimes before pretended and sought to do the same, by the inſtigation of the said widow Drewrie, who (as he sayd) had promiſed to make a mariage betweene him and miſtreſſe Saunders, (whom he seemed to loue exceſſiuely,) the deſire of which hope hasted him forwarde to diſpatche the fact. Neuertheleſſe he protested, (howbeit vntruly) that miſtreſſe Saunders was not priuie nor cõſenting therevnto. Upon this cõfeſſion he was arreygned at the Kings Bench in Weſtminſter Hal on Fryday the xvij. of Aprill, where acknowledging himself giltie, he was condemned as principall of the murther of M. Saunders, according to whiche ſentence he was executed in

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Smithfielde on Monday the xx. of the same moneth, at whiche time (though untruly, as she her self confessed afterward) he laboured by al meanes to cleare mistresse Saunders, of committing euill of her body with him: and afterwarde was hanged vp in chaynes neere vnto the place where he had done the fact.

Thus much cõcerning the very case of the murther it selfe & the punishment of the principall doer thereof. As for the acknowledgement of the former wickednesse of his life, & the harty repentaunce that he pretended for the same, euen to his very death, I deferre the to the last part of this matter, to whiche place those things do more peculiarly pertaine. In the meane time mistresse Drewrie and her man being examined, and as well by their owne confessions, as by the falling out of the matter in consequence, & also by Brownes appeachment, thought culpable, were committed to warde. And anone after mistresse Saunders being deliuered of childe & churched (for at the tyme of her husbandes death she looked presently to lie downe) was vpon mistresse Drewries mans confession, and vppon other greate lykelyhoodes and presumptions, likewise committed to warde, and on wednesday, the sixth of May, arreig-

ned with mistresse Drewrie, at the Guilde hall, the effect of whole seuerall inditements is this: That they had by a letter written, bene procurers of the sayde murther, and so accessaries before the fact: And knowing the murther done, had by money and otherwise, relieued and beneayding to the murtherer, and so accessaries also after the fact. Whervnto they both of them pleaded not guiltie. And mistresse Saunders, notwithstandyng the auouchement of mistresse Drewries man face to face, and the great probabilities of the euidence giuen in against hir by M. Geffrey, the Queenes Maiesties Sergeant, stoode so stoutly still to the deniall of all thinges, (in which stoute deniall she continued also a certaine time after hir condemnation) that some were brought in a blinde beliefe, that eyther shee was not giltie at all, or else had but brought hir selfe in daunger of lawe through ignorance, and not through pretenced malice. Howbeit, for asmuch as bare denial is no sufficient barre to discharge manifest matter, & apparãt euidence: they were both condemned as accessaries to maister Saunders death, and executed in Smithfielde the thirteenth of May, being the wednesday in the Whitson weeke, at whiche time they both of them confessed

felled themselues guiltie of the fact, for which they were condemned, and with very great repentaunce and meekenesse, receyued the reward of their trespasse, in the presence of many personages of Honor and Worshipp, and of so great a number of people as the like hath not bene seene there togither in any mans remembraunce. For almost the whole fielde, and all the way from Newgate, was as full of folke as could well stande one by another; and besides that, great companies were placed bothe in the chambers neere aboutes (whose windowes and walles were in many places beaten down to looke out at) & also vpō the gutters, sides, and toppes of the houses, and vpon the battements and steeple of S. Bartholmewes.

Mistresse Drewries man was arreigned at Newgate on Friday the viij. of May, and beyng there condemned as accessarie, was executed with his mistresse, at the time and place aforesayde.

Thus haue yee heard the murthering of Maister Saunders, with the apprehension, arreignment, condemnation, and execution of the principall and of the accessaries to the same. Now let vs proceede to the incidents that happed from the times of their ap-

apprehenſions, to the time of their deaths, and ſo to the admonition, whiche is the concluſion and fruyte of this whole matter.

Whereas it was determined that Miſtreſſe Sanders & miſtreſſe Drewrie ſhould haue ſuffered vpon the nexte ſaterday after theyr condemnation, whiche was Whitſon euen: the matter was ſtayed til the wedneſday in Whitſon weeke, vpō theſe occaſions enſuing. The booke of M. Sanders accōpts and reckenings, wherevpon depended the knowledge of his whole ſtate, was miſſing. Certaine ſummes of money were ſayd to be in the handes of parties vnknowne, the intelligence whereof was deſyred and ſought for to the behoofe of M. Saunders children. The parties conuicted were to be reformed to Godwarde, and to be brought to the willing confeſſing of the things for whiche they had bene iuſtly condemned, and whiche as yet they obſtinately concealed.

And beſides all this, one Mell, a miniſter that had heretofore bene ſuſpended from his Miniſterie, accompanying miſtreſſe Saunders, from hir condemnation to Newgate, & conferring with hir as it had bene to gyue hir good counſell & comforte, was ſo blinded with hir ſolemne aſſeuerations & proteſtati-

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ons of innocencie, that notwithstanding he had heard hir inditement, with the exact and substãtiall triall of hir case: yet neuertheleſſe, he perſwaded himſelfe that ſhe was vtterly cleare, & thereupon falling in lone with hir, dealte with miſtreſſe Drewrie to take the whole guilte vpon hir ſelfe, vndertaking to ſue for miſtreſſe Saunders pardon. And ſo, what by his terrifying of hir, with the horrour of miſcharging and caſting away of an innocẽt, what with his promiſſing of certain money to the mariage of hir daughter, and with other perſwaſions: ſhe was ſo wholy wonne that way, that as well before certayne perſonages of honour, as alſo before the Deane of Paules and others, ſhe vtterly cleered miſtreſſe Saunders of the facte, or of conſent to the ſame, taking the whole blame thereof to hir ſelfe, and proteſting to ſtande therein to the death, contrarie to hir former confeſſion at the time of hir arreignement.

Miſtreſſe Saunders alſo, after the laying of this platte, ſtoode ſo ſtoutely to hir tackling, that when the Deane of Paules gaue hir godly exhortation for the clearing of hir conſcience, and for the reconciling of hir ſelfe vnto God, as the time and caſe moſte needefully required (as other had done before) he

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coulde obtayne nothing at hir hande. By meanes wherof, he was fayne to leaue hir that time, whiche was the Friday, not without great griefe and indignation of mind to see hir stubborne vnrepentauntnesse. In the meane whyle, the sayd Mell discouering his purpose and whole platforme to an honest Gentleman, whome he vnskilfully tooke to haue bene a welwiller to obtaine the pardon of mistresse Saunders, was partely by that meanes, and also by other follies of his own; cut off from his enterprise. For when hee came to sue for hir pardon, whiche thing he did with such outrage of doting affectiō, that he not onely profered summes of money, but also offered his owne body & life for the safetie of the woman, whom he protested vpō his conscience to be vnguiltie. The Lordes of the counsell knowing hir to be rightly condemned by good iustice, and being priuie to the state of the case beforehand, & also finding him out by his owne vnwise dealings (wherof among other, one was, that he intented to marry hir) not onely frustrated his desire, but also adiudged him to stande vpon the pillorie, with apparant notes & significations of his lewde & foolish demeanour. Accoʒding to the which appointment he was set vpō a Pil-

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lozie by the place of execution at the time of their suffering, with a paper pinned vpon his breast, wherein were written certaine wordes in great letters conteyning the effect of his fact, to his open shame: *videlicet*, For practising to colour the detestable factes of George Saunders wife. Whiche was a very good lesson to teach al persons to refrain from any deuises or practises to deface or discredite the honorable proceedings of Counsellours, & publike and lawfull forme of trialles & iudgemēts according to Justice, or to hinder the beneficial course of so good examples.

By this occasion Mistresse Sanders was vtterly vnprouided to die at that tyme, and therefore as well in respect of mercie, as for the considerations aforesayde, a further respyte was gyuen to them vnwitting, and a reprimie was sente by M. Mackwilliams for a tyme if neede were. In the meane tyme, (that is to wit vpon the Saturday morning) the constant repoze goeth, that as certayne menne came talking through Newgate, one happened to speake lowde of the Gallowes that was sette vp, and of the greatnesse and strongnesse of the same, saying it would holde them bothe and moe, the sounde of whiche wordes did so pierce into the watchfull eares

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of mistresse Saunders, who lay neare hand, that being striken to the heart with the horror of the present death whiche she looked for that day, she wente immediatly to mistresse Drewrie, and telling hir that she knew certainly by the wordes whiche she had heard, that they should by all likelyhode be executed that day, asked hir if she would stand to hyr former promise. But mistresse Drewrie after better cõsideration of hir selfe, counsayled hir to fall to playne and simple dealing: telling hir, that for hir owne parte she was fully determined not to dissemble any longer, nor to hazarde hir owne soule eternally for the saftie of an other bodies temporall life. Then Mistresse Saunders, who had determined to acknowledge nothing against hir selfe, so long as she might be in any hope of life, howbeit that shee alwayes purposed to confesse the truth whensoeuer she should come to the instant of death, as she hir selfe cõfessed afterward: being strikē both with feare & remorse, did by the aduise of M. Cole, (who laboured very earnestly with hir to bryng hir to repentance, and was come to hir very early that morning, bicause it was thought they shoulde haue bene executed presently) sende for the Deane of Poules agayne, and bewayling

bewayling hir former stubburnes, declared vnto him and M. Cole, M. Charke, and M. Yong, that she had giuen hir cõsent and procurement to hir husbandes death, through vnlawfull lusse and lyking that shee had to Browne, confessing hir sinfulnesse of lyfe cõmitted with him: and humbly submitting hir selfe to hir deserued punishment, besought them of spirituall cõforte and councell: which thing they were glad to perceyue, and therevpon employed their trauel to do them good, and laboured very painefully to instruct the aright: for (God wote) they found all the three prysoners very rawe & ignorant in all things perteyning to God and to their soule health, yea and euen in the very principles of the Christen Religion. Neuertheles, through Gods good worknyng with their labour, they recouered them out of Sathans kingdome vnto Christe, in somuche that besides their voluntary arknowledging of their late hynous facte, they also detested the former sinfulnesse of their lyfe, and willingly yelded to the death whiche they had shunned, vttering suche certayne tokens of their vnfayned repentance by all kinde of modestie and meeknesse, as no greater coulde be deuised. For Mistresse Saunders the same daye sente for

hir husbandes brothers and theyr wiues, and kinsfolke that were in the towne, which came vnto hyr the day before hir death: in whose presence shee kneeling mildely on hir knees, with abundance of sorowfull teares, desired them of forgiuenesse for bereuing them of theyr deere brother & friende: whereunto M. Saunders the Lawyer in the name of them al answered, that as they were very sory both for the losse of theyr friende, and also for hyr heinous fault, so they hartily forgaue hir, and in token thereof kneeled downe altogither, praying to God with hir and for hir, that he also would remitte hir sinne.

Besides this pitiful submission, she also bewayled hir offence towardes hir owne kinred, whome she had stayned by hir trespasse, and towardes the whole worlde, whome she had offended by hir crime, but especially hir children, whome she had not onely bereft both of father and mother, but also left them a coarse and shame. Wherefore, after exhortation giuen to suche of them as were of any capacitie and discretion, that they should feare God, and learne by hir fall to auoyde sinne: shee gaue eche of those a booke of M. Bradfordes meditations, wherein she desired the forelayd three preachers to write some admo-

admonition as they thought good: Which done, she subscribed them with these words: Your sorowfull mother Anne Saunders. And so blessing them in the name of God and of our Saviour Jesus Christ, she sent them away out of her sorowfull sight, & gaue her selfe wholly to the setting of her grieued heart to the quiet receyuing of the bitter cup, whiche she dranke of the next day, as hath bene tolde before: Howbeit, without doubt, to her euerlasting comfort.

And mistresse Drewrie no lesse carefull of her own estate, besides her humble repentaunce in the prison, and her earnest desiring of the people to pray for her selfe, and the others with her as they came towarde execution, did vppon the Carte not onely confesse her guiltinesse of the fact; as mistresse Sanders had done, but also with great lowlinesse and reuerence, still kneeling downe towardes the Earle of Bedforde and other noble men that were on horsebacke on the East side of the stage, tooke it vpon her death, that whereas it had bene reported of her that she had poysoned her late husbande Walter Drewrie, and dealt with witchcraft and sorcerie, and also appeached diuerse Merchantes wiues of dissolute and vnchast liuing.

shee had done none of all those things, but was vtterly cleare both to GOD and the worlde of all suche manner of dealing. And then with lyke obeysaunce, turning hir selfe to the Earle of Darbie, who was in a chamber behinde hir, she protested vnto him before God, that whereas shee had bene reported to haue bene the cause of separatiō betwixte him and my Ladie his wife: shee neyther procured nor consented to any suche thing. But otherwise, whereas in the time of hir service in his house, she had offended him, in neglecting or contemning hir duetie, she acknowledged hir faulte, and beseought him for Gods sake to forgiue hir: who very honourably and euen with teares accepted hir submission, and openly protested him selfe to pray hartily to God for hir.

Hir seruaunt also, hauing openly acknowledged his offence, kneeled meekely downe, praying seuerally with a preacher, as ethe of them had done at their firste comming to the place. Which done, they were all put in a readinesse by the executioner, and at one instant (by drawing away the Carte whereon they stoode) were sent togither out of this worlde vnto God.

And Browne also, a good while before, during

ring the time of his imprisonment, comming to a better minde than he had bene of in time past, confessed that he had not heretofore frequented Sermons, nor receyued the holy sacrament, nor vsed any calling vpon God, priuate or publike, nor giuen him self to reading of holy Scripture, or any bookes of godlinesse: but had altogither followed the appetites and lustes of his sinfull flesh, euen with greedinesse and outragious contempt both of God and man. Neuertheless God was so good vnto him, & schooled him so well in that shorte time of imprisonment, as he closed vp his life with a marueilous apparāce of hartie repentance, constant trust in Gods mercy through Iesus Christe, and willingnesse to forsake this miserable worlde.

Nowe remayneth to shewe what is to be gathered of this terrible example, and howe we ought to applie the same to our owne behoofe. First I note with S. Paule, that when menne regarde not to knowe God, or not to honour him when they knowe hym: God giueth them ouer to their owne lustes so as they runne on from sinne to sinne, and from mischiefe to mischiefe, to do suche things as are shamefull and odious, euen in the sight of the worlde, to their owne vn-

auoydable perils. And when the measure of their iniquitie is filled vp, there is no way for them to escape the iustice of God, whiche they haue prouoked. In somuch, that if they might eschue al bodily punishment: yet the very hell of their owne conscience woulde prosecute them, and the sting of theyr minde would be a continuall pryson, torment, and torture to them, where soeuer they wente. Againe on the other side, wee muste marke the infinite greatnesse of Gods wisedome and mercie, who perceyuing the peruerse wilfulnesse of mans froward nature to sinning, suffreth mē sometimes to runne so long vpon the bridle, till it seeme to thēselues, that they may safely do what they liste, and to the worlde, that they be past recouerie vnto goodnesse: and yet in the ende catching them in theyr chiefe pride, he rayseth them by their ouerthrowe, amendeth them by their wickednesse, and reuyueth them by their death, in suche wise blotting out the staine of their former filth, that theyr darkenesse is turned into lighte, and theyr terrour to their comforte. Moreouer, when God bringeth suche matters vpon the stage, vnto the open face of the worlde, it is not to the intent that men shoulde gaze and wonder at the persons, as byrdes doe at an

Owle, not that they shoulde delight themselues and others with the fond and peraduenture sinister reporting of them, not vpbrayde the whole stocke and kinrede with the faulte of the offenders: no surely, God meaneth no such thing. His purpose is, that the execution of his iudgementes, shoulde by the terrour of the outwarde sight of the example, driue vs to the inwarde consideration of our selues. Behold, we be all made of the same moulde, printed with the same stampe, & indued with the same nature that the offenders are. We be the impes of the olde Adam, and the venim of sinne which he receyued from the olde Serpent, is shedde into vs all, and worketh effectually in vs all. Such as the roote is, such are the braunches, & the twigges of a thorne or bramble can beare no grapes. That we stande, it is the benefite of Gods grace, and not the goodnesse of our nature, nor ỳ strẽgth of our owne will. That they are faine, it was of frayltie: where from we be no more priuiledged than they; and that shoulde wee ouersone perceyue by experience, if we were lefte to our selues. Hee that looketh seuerely into other mens faultes, is lightly blynde in his owne: and hee that eyther vpbraydeth the repentaunt that hath receyued punishe-

ment, or repzocheth the kinred or ofspzyng with the fault of the auncester or alye, howe great soruer the same hath bene: sheweth him selfe not to haue any remorse of his owne sinnes, nor to remember that he him selfe also is a man: but (whiche thing he would little thinke) he fully matcheth the crime of the misdoer, if he do not surmount by his presumptuousnesse.

When it was tolde our Sauiour Chzist that Pylate had myngled the bloud of certayne men with theyr owne Sacrifice, what answeare made he? Did he detest the offenders? Did he exclame against their doings? Did hee exaggerate the faulte of the one, or the cruelte of the other? No. But framing and applying the example to the reformation of the hearer, suppose ye (sayde he) that those Galileans were greater sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered suche punishment? I tell you nay: but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. Or thinke ye that those eighten on whom ẏ towze in Silo fell, and slewe them, were sinners above all that dwelt in Hierusalem? I tell you nay: but except ye repent, ye shall all perishe likewise. Let vs applie this to our present purpose. Were those whom we saw fully exe-

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cuted in Smithfielde, greater sinners than all other English people? were they greater sinners than al Londoners? Were they greater sinners than all that loked vpon them? No verily: but except their example leade vs to repentance, we shall all of vs come to as sore punishment in this worlde, or else to sorer in the worlde to come. Their faults came into the open Theatre, and therefore seemed the greater to our eyes, & surely they were great in deede: neyther are ours the lesse, because they lie hidden in the covert of our heart, God the searcher of al secretes seeth them, and if he list he can also discouer them. He hath shewed in some, what all of vs deserue, to prouoke vs also to repentance, that all of vs might haue mercie at his hande, and shewe mercy one to another, and with one mouth and one heart glorifie his goodnesse. It is sayde by the Prophete Samuell, that disobedience is as the sinne of Witchcraft. Let euery of vs loke into himself, but first let him put on the spectacles of Gods Lawe, and take the light of Gods worde with him) and he shall see such a gulfe of disobedience in himselfe, as he may well thinke there is none offender but himselfe. I say not this as a cloaker of offences, that white should not be called white, and

blacke, blacke: or as a patrone of misdoers, that they should not haue their deserued hire: but to represse our hastie iudgemẽts and vncharitable speeches, that wee might both detest wickednesse with perfect hatred, and rue the persons with Christen modestie: knowing that with what measure we met vnto others, with the same shall it be moten to vs agayne.

Finally, let all folkes both maried and vnmaried, learne hereby to possesse and keepe their vessell in honestie and cleannesse. For if the knot betweene man & wife (which ought to be inseparable) be once broken, it is seldom or neuer knit agayne. And though it be, yet is not the woũd thoughly healed, but there appeareth some skarre euer after. But if the sore rankle and fester inwardly (as cõmonly it doth except the more grace of God be) in the ende it bursteth forth to the destruction or hurt of both the parties, not lightly without great harme to others also besides thẽselues, as we see by this example. For when the body whiche was dedicated to God to be his Temple and Tabernacle of his holy spirite, is become the sinke of sinne and cage of vncleannesse, the Deuill ceaseth not to driue the parties still headlong vnto naughtinesse,

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till they be faine eyther into open shame and daunger of temporall lawe: or into damnable destruction both of body and soule, according as Salomon in his Proverbes sayth, that the steps of a harlotte lead down vnto death, and hir feete pierce euen vnto Hell. Therefore good reader, so beare and read this present example, as the same may turne to the bettering of thy state, and not to occasion of slaunder, nor the hurte of thine owne conscience, nor to the offence of thy Christian brethren.

Farewell.

Arthur Golding.

Anne Saunders cõfeſsion as she ſpake it at the place of execution.

GOod people I am come hyther to dye the death, wherevnto I am adiudged, as worthily and as deſeruedly as euer dyed any: I had a good huſband, by whom I had many children, with whome I liued in wealth, & might haue done ſtill, had not the Deuill kindled in my hearte, firſt the helliſh firebrande of vnlawfull luſt, & afterwarde a murtherous intent to procure my ſayde huſbande to be bereued of his lyfe, whiche was alſo by my wicked meanes accompliſhed, as to the worlde is knowne. And as I woulde if he couldе heare me, if it might be, proſtrate vpon the grounde, at my huſbandes feete, aſke mercy with plentifull teares of him, ſo that whiche I maye and I ought to do, I aſke mercy of God, I aſke mercie of all men and women of the worlde, whō by my deede & example I haue offended: and eſpecially I be-

bewayle my husbande, & aske mercie of my childre who I haue bereaued of so good a father, I aske mercy of his kindred and frendes whome I haue hurt, and of all my frendes and kindred, of whom I am abashed and ashamed: and deyng of my selfe vnworthy of pitie, yet I beseech the all, and you all, and all the whole world euen for Gods sake, and for our sauiour Christes sake to forgiue me. And I thanke God with my whole hart, that hee hath not suffred me to haue the reyne and bridle of sinning giuen me at my will, to the daunger of my eternall damnation, but that he hath found out my sin, and brought me to punishment in this world, by his fatherly correction, to amend, to spare, and saue me in the worlde to come: & I beseeche him graunte mee his heauenly grace, that all who do beholde or shall heare of my death, may by the example thereof be frayed from like sinning. And I beseeche you all to pray for me and with me.

The Prayer whiche was sayd by Anne Saunders at the place of execution, the copie whereof she deliuered vnto the right honorable the Earle of Bedford.

AS I doe confesse with great sorow (O deare father) that I haue grieuously, and otentimes sinned against heaue and against thee, and am vnworthy to be called thy daughter, so (O deare Father) I acknowledge thy mercy, thy grace and loue towardes me, moste wretched sinner, offred me in my Lorde and sauiour Iesus Christ, in whome thou giuest me an hearte to repent. And by repentaunce hast put away my sinnes, and throwne them into the bottome of the Sea: O deare Father increase and continue this grace vntill the ende, and in the ende. I testifie this day (O Lorde my God) thy loue, O Lorde, thy sauing health is lyke euerlasting, and ioy without ende: and because thou hast touched my sinful heart with the displeasure of my sinne, and with a desire of thy kingdome, O deare father, for thy Christes sake, as I hope thou wilt,

wilt, so I beseeche thee to finishe that good worke in me. Suffer me not, mercifull and louing father, to be troubled with death whē it layeth holde on me: nor with the loue of lyfe, when it shall be taken away. O Lord, now as thou hast, so still lift vp my soule as it were with an Eagles winges vnto Heauen, there to beholde thee. Lorde into thy handes I comit my body, that it be not troubled in death, and my soule, that it see not damnation. Come Lorde Iesu, come assist me with thy holy spirite, a weake woman in a strong battell, come Lord Iesu, come quickly, saue thy handemayde that putteth hir trust in thee, behold me in Christ, receyue me in Christe, in whose name I pray saying. Our Father. &c.

Anne Saunders dying to the worlde, and liuing to God.

After this she sayd also a godly Prayer out of the Seruice booke whiche is vsed to be sayd at the houre of death.

A note of a certaine saying which Master Saunders had left written with his owne hande in his studie.

Christe shall be magnified in my body, whether it be thorough life or else death. For Christ is to mee life, & death is to mee aduauntage. These wordes were M. Nowels Theame whiche he preached at the burial of my brother Haddon vpon Thursday being the xxb. day of Januarie Anno Do. 1570. Anno Regine Elizabeth, 13. Among other thinges whiche he preached, this saying of his is to be had alwayes in remembrance, that is, that we must all (when wee come to pray) firste accuse and condemne our selues for our sinnes committed against God before the seate of his Iustice, and then after cleaue vnto him by faith in the mercie and merites of our Sauiour and Redeemer Iesus Christ, whereby we are assured of eternall saluation.

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